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CIACO NID 81 [REDACTED]

November 03, 1981

POLAND: Trying To Control Strikes

Solidarity leader Walesa apparently is prepared to make a major effort at a meeting today of the union's national leadership to bring an end to wildcat strikes. It appears that he will seek to establish some mechanism to discipline defiant local chapters that strike. The national leadership may try to take more of the burden of representing local grievances to the authorities, and it decided last week to establish a 20- to 30-man grievance committee to bring regional problems to the attention of the regime. [REDACTED]

The union also may propose today that it take over negotiations from striking locals. Walesa yesterday apparently won an end to a two-week strike by 120,000 workers in southeast Poland on these terms. The involvement of the national leadership in local negotiations would ensure greater central control but risks spreading thin the resources of the leadership and makes it more vulnerable to criticism. [REDACTED]

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